



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

BOARD OF VISITORS
UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY
121 BLAKE ROAD
ANNAPOLIS MARYLAND 21402-5000

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY BOARD OF VISITORS

March 27, 2017
Hubbard Hall
Annapolis, MD

Members present: Congressman Wittman, Judge Wallach, Senator Shaheen, Senator Sullivan, Congressman Ruppersberger, Congressman DeSantis, Congressman Murphy, Ms. Fox, Admiral Winnefeld (Ret.), Captain Barker (Ret.), Lieutenant Commander Cnossen (Ret.), and Ms. Wright.

Congressman Wittman called the open session of the meeting to order at 0900. Congressman Wittman welcomed the board members and administered the Oath of Office to new members Congressmen DeSantis and Murphy.

Congressman Wittman yielded the floor to Vice Admiral Carter.

Superintendent's Update: Delivered by Vice Admiral Walter E. Carter, Jr, Superintendent, U.S. Naval Academy.

- **Opening Comments:** Vice Admiral Carter welcomed the board. He briefly discussed the history of Hubbard Hall, home to the Naval Academy crew team. He then paused to speak to Midshipman Jonathan Dennler's heroic actions during a severe thunderstorm on July 21, 2016 for which he was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal.
- **Moral Development:** Vice Admiral Carter discussed the many forms of community service midshipmen have been involved in over the past few months, including the Wreaths Across America campaign in December and Centro de Ayuda in the Annapolis area. Megan Rosenberger, Chief of Staff of the Midshipman Action Group, was the first midshipman and the youngest person awarded the Martin Luther King Jr. Drum Major Award. She was recognized for her distinguished service in Anne Arundel County. Vice Admiral Carter highlighted not just the selfless service of the Brigade, but recognized the 2,402 families in the Annapolis community who open up their home to midshipmen as part of our sponsor family program. Vice Admiral Carter closed out this section by making brief mention of several visits to the Naval Academy by some of our Nation's leaders, including: former Secretary of State John Kerry, Dr. Ken Blanchard, a number of NASA astronauts, Admiral William McRaven, and General James Amos.
- **Mental Development:** Vice Admiral Carter made brief mention of the Class of 2017's international scholarship winners, including Lucy Ford (Rhodes Scholar),

Ross Gilchriest and Erik Sutton (both Schwarzman Scholarship winners), Chris Panuski (Hertz Scholarship), and Rachel Wible (Gates Scholarship). He also discussed our success in other scholarships, recently being named a “top-producing campus” for Fulbright recipients as well as having a school-record six Truman scholars this year. The Superintendent described this year’s Joint Service Academy Cyber Summit which was hosted at the Naval Academy and included over 200 leaders in the cyber field. Among many other distinguished speakers, four former Directors of the National Security Agency engaged in a panel discussion, possibly the first time this has occurred in an unclassified setting. The academics section ended with an update on the construction of Hopper Hall and the parking garage.

- **Physical Development:** The Superintendent discussed the Patriot League successes this winter, including the men’s track and field team winning its 5th consecutive Patriot League title. Meanwhile, the men’s and women’s swimming and diving teams won their 14th and 6th Patriot League titles in a row. This year’s Brigade Boxing finals crowned 14 champions, including two midshipmen who joined their fathers as Brigade Champions. Vice Admiral Carter concluded by mentioning the inaugural Naval Academy Baseball Classic scheduled for April 1st. The first of a three-year deal, the Nationals will host their final preseason exhibition game at Terwilliger Brothers Field.
- **Outreach:** Vice Admiral Carter moved on to discuss a number of outreach programs this semester. These included the Naval Academy’s first technology competition, where middle school-aged children competed in robotics construction; Girls Only Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Day, where 240 middle school girls were exposed to a wide range of STEM activities; and the annual Boy Scout Jamboree, where over 700 Boy Scouts from around the country attended a three-day weekend event at the Naval Academy.
- **Resource Challenges and New Commandant:** The Superintendent briefed the board on this year’s resource challenges, going into detail on the impacts to international programs, admissions, summer cruises, and hiring. Before opening the floor for questions, he thanked Colonel Steve Liszewski for his steadfast leadership as the 86th Commandant of Midshipmen, who will be turning over with Captain Robert Chadwick this summer. Vice Admiral Carter then yielded the floor to Dean Phillips for a brief on Naval Academy academics.

Academic Update: Dean Phillips began by discussing the Naval Academy’s position as the highest 4-year graduation rate among schools which graduate greater than 50% of its students in the fields of STEM. He attributed that success to five factors: challenging intellectual and creative work; frequent student-faculty interaction; active and collaborative learning; complementary learning opportunities outside the classroom; and a supportive campus environment. After detailing each of these five factors, he concluded by briefing the board on the Naval Academy’s position as a leader in international Fulbright scholars, as well as in cybersecurity studies. Dean Phillips then yielded the floor to Mr. Tim Disher for an update on the International Programs Office. Mr. Disher highlighted the importance of the international programs office to the Naval Academy but more importantly to the Navy and Marine Corps

team. He spoke to the myriad of international programs supported by the Naval Academy, and the impact of budget instability since the program's inception in 2006.

Break

Brigade of Midshipmen Update: Delivered by Colonel Steve Liszewski, Commandant of Midshipmen. Colonel Liszewski briefed the board on some key events since the last meeting, including an in-depth look at the summer training program and the impact of the 2017 budget. He provided a look at the months ahead and then provided his overall observations during his two years as Commandant. He then invited Midshipman First Class Shaquil Keels to speak about his path as a peer educator in the Brigade's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) program. Colonel Liszewski then yielded the floor to Vice Admiral Carter and Captain Bart Marsh for an update on the Naval Academy SAPR program.

SAPR Update: Vice Admiral Carter presented the board with detailed results of the 2016 Service Academy Gender Relations Survey. While there was progress in some areas, this survey revealed that there is much more work to be done—especially in the area of prevention. Vice Admiral Carter yielded the floor to Captain Marsh, the Naval Academy's SAPR Program Manager, who thoroughly reviewed the program from both prevention and response viewpoints. He then provided an overview of the sexual harassment and assault training that each midshipman received during four years at the Academy. He then yielded the floor back to Vice Admiral Carter, who concluded with the way forward in combatting this problem. He then thanked the board for their support and yielded the floor to Congressman Wittman.

Congressman Wittman thanked the Superintendent for his leadership and comprehensive report. He and the other board members thanked Colonel Steve Liszewski for his impressive leadership as the Commandant of Midshipmen and adjourned the open portion of the meeting.

March 27, 2017 Minutes Approved:


Chairman